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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/923,835	08/06/2001	Xiaochun Nie	004860.P2640	1228

7590 08/25/2004

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EXAMINER

HAILU, TADESSE

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/923,835

Applicant(s)

NIE ET AL.

Examiner

Tadesse Hailu

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-63 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,10,11,14-18,28,37,39-53 and 57-63 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-9,12,13,19-27,29-36,38 and 54-56 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2, 5.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the patent application number 09/923,835 filed 8/6/2001.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The Information Disclosure Statements submitted on 12/3/2001 and 7/28/2003 are considered and entered into the file.

Specification

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: *The Brief Description of the Drawings* is missing the description of Fig. 4A. Appropriate correction is required.

Status of the claims

4. The pending claims 1 through 63 are examined herein as follows.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 15-18, 40-52, and 58-63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 15, 40 and 58 recite the limitation "said input" in lines 1, 2, and 1, respectively. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

6. Claims 1, 10, 11, 14-18, 28, 37, 39-43, 53, and 57-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Guedalia (US Pat No 6,536,043).

The present invention relates to methods and apparatuses for compressing, processing, transmitting, and receiving multiple views of an object over a network of computer systems. Likewise, **Guedalia** relates to methods and systems for processing, such as encoding and transmitting digital multimedia data over a network.

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With regard to claim 1:

Guedalia discloses an object movie processing method for processing a data set (e.g., blocks) enabling interactive random access for different views of an object (Fig. 6, column 29, 30-40, column 30, lines 48-59).

The method of Guedalia discloses storing a plurality of frames of said object (column 27, lines 46-53, Fig. 2, #35), said plurality of frames representing a set of views of said object (column 27, lines 46-53).

The method of Guedalia also discloses assigning a reference number to each of said plurality of frames (column 28, lines 32-43).

The method of Guedalia also discloses arranging said plurality of frames in a preferred layout (column 31, lines 37-46, column 35, lines 1-23).

The method of Guedalia further discloses dividing said preferred layout into a plurality of blocks having frames sharing spatial similarities and compressing each of said plurality of blocks separately (Abstract, Figs. 3A, 3B, column 34, lines 24-31, column 3, lines 61-column 4, lines 4).

With regard to claim 10:

Guedalia further discloses that said method is performed by a server computer system (Fig. 1, column 8, lines 46-50, column 9, lines 51-55).

With regard to claim 11:

Guedalia further discloses that said method is performed by a world-wide web server (Fig. 11, column 2, lines 16-38, column 3, lines 44-47).

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With regard to claim 14:

Guedalia discloses A digital processing (Client processor (Fig.2) and Sever processor (Fig. 1) implemented method for receiving and using a data set enabling interactive random access for different views of an object (Abstract).

The method of Guedalia further discloses transmitting a request to receive said data set, said data set including frames of said object, said frames representing views of said object (Fig. 2, abstract, column 5, lines 60-column 6, lines 28, column 6, lines 45-64).

The method of Guedalia further discloses receiving said data set wherein said frames were arranged in a preferred layout, said preferred layout was divided into a plurality of blocks wherein each of said plurality of blocks was compressed separately (Figs. 3A, 3B, 7, and 9, column 8, lines 8-14, column 11, lines 26-31, column 12, lines 1-6).

With regard to claim 15:

The method of Guedalia further discloses that said input further comprising manipulating said object using a cursor, which is displayed on a display device (column 26, lines 46-57, column 35, lines 24-37, lines 63-65).

With regard to claim 16:

The method of Guedalia further discloses receiving an input which requests a selected number of said views (column 6, lines 39-43, column 7, lines 1-6, column 26, lines 46-57, column 35, lines 24-37, lines 63-65).

The method of Guedalia further discloses mapping (Fig. 10) said input to a selected appropriate number of frames in said frames (column 33, lines 1-5, column 35, lines 20-23, Figs 10 and 14).

The method of Guedalia further discloses decompressing said selected appropriate number of frames (column 17, lines 5-6, 23-24, column 27, lines 51-66).

With regard to claim 17:

The method of Guedalia further discloses a method as in claim 16 further comprising: storing said selected appropriate number of frames that are compressed (column 27, lines 57-59, column 29, lines 3-6).

The method of Guedalia further discloses allowing a user to playback said selected number of said views in a movie-like sequence (column 10, lines 6-7, column 12, lines 62-63).

With regard to claim 18:

The method of Guedalia further discloses that said method is performed by a digital processing system (Figs. 1 and 2) or and wherein said data set is received from a server computer system (Fig. 1, column 29, lines 13-28, column 30, lines 61-65).

With regard to claim 28:

Independent claim 28 corresponds generally to independent claim 1 and recites similar features in a computer readable storage medium form, and therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

With regard to claim 37:

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Independent claim 37 corresponds generally to independent claim 10 and recites similar features in a computer readable storage medium form, and therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

With regard to claim 39:

Independent claim 39 corresponds generally to independent claim 14 and recites similar features in a computer readable storage medium form, and therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

With regard to claim 40:

Independent claim 40 corresponds generally to independent claim 15 and recites similar features in a computer readable storage medium form, and therefore is rejected under the same rationale

With regard to claim 41:

Independent claim 41 corresponds generally to independent claim 16 and recites similar features in a computer readable storage medium form, and therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

With regard to claim 42:

Independent claim 42 corresponds generally to independent claim 17 and recites similar features in a computer readable storage medium form, and therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

With regard to claim 43:

Independent claim 43 corresponds generally to independent claim 18 and recites similar features in a computer readable storage medium form, and therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

With regard to claim 53:

Independent claim 53 corresponds generally to independent claim 1 and recites similar features in a system form, and therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

With regard to claim 57:

Independent claim 57 corresponds generally to independent claim 14 and recites similar features in a system form, and therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

With regard to claim 58:

Independent claim 58 corresponds generally to independent claim 15 and recites similar features in a system form, and therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

With regard to claim 59:

Independent claim 59 corresponds generally to independent claim 16 and recites similar features in a system form, and therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

With regard to claim 60:

Independent claim 60 corresponds generally to independent claim 17 and recites similar features in a system form, and therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 2-9, 12-13, 19-27, 29-36, 38, 44-52, 54-56, and 61-63 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: While Guedalia discloses encoding (compressing) frames, Guedalia does not, however, disclose "a compressing sequence includes going away from said key frame until reaching a boundary of each plurality of blocks to cover each of said non-key frames" as specified in the objected claims.

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Tadesse Hailu, whose telephone number is (703) 306-2799. The Examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 10:00 - 6:30 ET. If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached at (703) 308-3116 Art Unit 2173 CPK 2-4A51.

10. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Tadesse Hailu August 10, 2004

